BENGALURU, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 26 | Min 17 | Humidity 63% Mostly cloudy Sensex 85,213 | Nifty 26,027 | Gold 1,34,582 | Silver 1,96,805 | Dollar 90.70 | Euro 106.68 | GBP 121.49

DROP YOUR WEAPONS

Spotting an earthmover on Cantonment Railway Colony campus clearing trees and vegetation, citizens raise alarm, bring work to a halt

PAGE 4

PLASTICKY NOTES

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board will have to set up state-level control room for enforcement of ban on single-use plastic items

PAGE 5

Transition phase of civic agencies has proved to be hardest for city's lakes. We look at just two cases in point: YMC Lake is completely taken over by garbage and debris dumpers; pending work at Vengaiah Lake has made it off-limits to walkers

WILL THE REAL CUSTODIAN PLEASE STAND UP?

Citizens helpless as they are not sure which authority will step in and sort matters out

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The condition of Yele Mallappa Shetty Lake aka YMC Lake and Vengaiah Lake is nothing to crow about. The authorities do not seem to be making any effort to preserve either the sprawling waterbody of over around 500 acres in East Bengaluru or make sure that the work at the recently rejuvenated lake in KR Puram progresses smoothly.

Let us start with the situation of YMC Lake: Lake activists have been running from pillar to post seeking a permanent solution and managed to goad a committee of MLAs, led by Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad, to visit the lake in July this year.

The team, including Basavanagudi MLA Ravi LA Ravi Subramanya and MLC Shashikala Jolle, inspected the lake and noticed sewage being let into the lake and a lack of proper fencing.

"We were on cloud nine when the MLAs and MLCs visited the lake and were expecting that the lake would be rejuvenated. However, nothing is done to fix the problems at the lake even five months after the visit. The fence of the lake is being damaged or removed to facilitate dumping debris on the lake bund. Dumping of garbage by irresponsible citizens has become a routine. Now, some people are burning plastic and dry waste on the lake bund with impunity. I have no hope for the revival of the lake that is on the verge of disappearing," said Balaji Raghotham, a lake activist.

When this correspondent visited Yele Mallappa Shetty Lake on Saturday, a few people were seen emptying liquor

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

YMC Lake full of weeds

"The pathetic condition of the lake filled with filth and weeds is a testimony to the negligence and apathy of the minor irrigation department and elected representatives

—M Eshwarappa, Right to Water

Practise what you preach

Traffic police gets memo mandating that they comply with all road safety norms, failing which action would follow

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Amid a rise in incidents of traffic police personnel themselves violating helmet rules while on duty, often followed by enforcement drives that drew public embarrassment, the city's traffic police chief has issued a memo mandating strict compliance with safety norms within the force.

The memo, issued on December 12, follows repeated instances of traffic police personnel themselves being found in violation of basic traffic rules, most notably riding two-wheelers without helmets, driving cars without seat belts on, and using mobile phones while driving official or personal vehicles.

In recent months, multiple instances of traffic police violating traffic norms have surfaced on social media platforms. Photographs and short videos posted by commuters have shown traffic police personnel riding motorcycles without helmets, driving patrol vehicles without seat belts, and speaking on mobile phones while behind the wheel at busy junctions across the city.

These posts have triggered sharp public criticism, with citizens questioning the credibility and moral authority of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Musical legacy

Windmills is set to present O Gaanewali, a moving tribute to the iconic women who shaped Hindustani semi classical music. The two-night showcase honours the lives and legacies of the legendary gaanewalis.
Where: Windmills, Whitefield;
When: December 19, 20, 9.30 pm

02 Theatrical spectacle

GoBrahma Productions & Shivapriya School of Dance present Roopa Viroopa, a dance-theatrical production that explores the transformative power of love — one that sees beyond appearances.
Where: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Shanthala Nagar;
When: December 21, 7 pm

03 Vibe voyage

Get ready for an unforgettable musical celebration as AP Dhillon the ultimate force in music brings a power-packed performance, in an immersive concert atmosphere that will leave fans spellbound.
Where: Embassy International Riding School, Papanahalli;
When: December 19, 6.30 pm

04 Pawsitive vibes

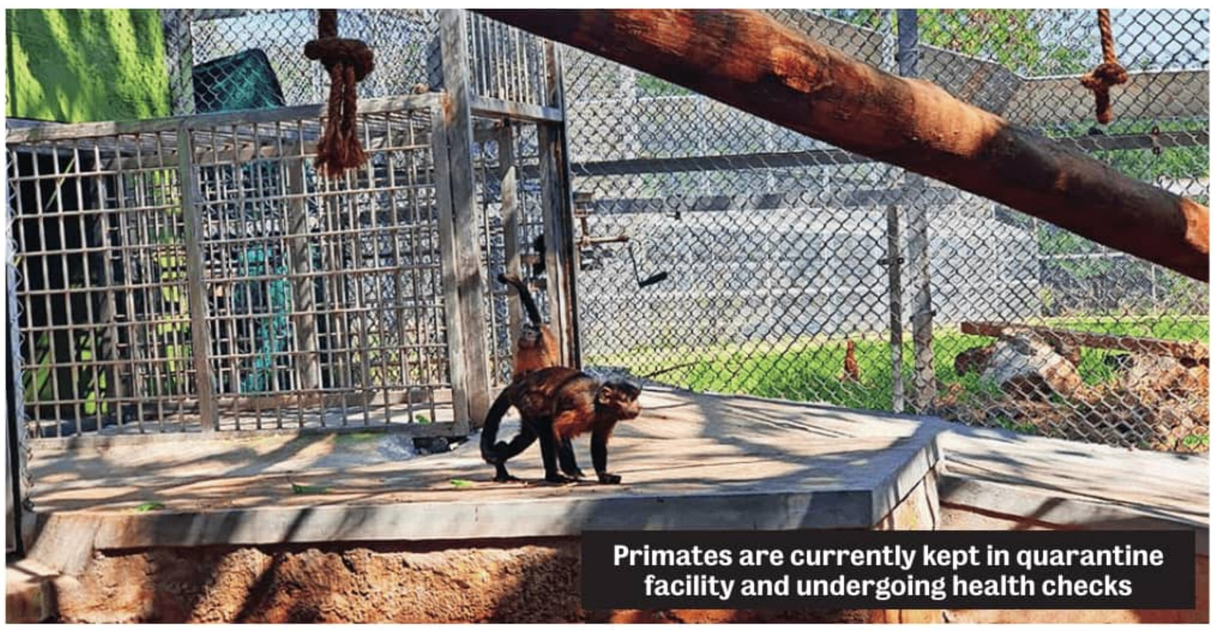
Mannheim Craft Brewery is bringing Paws & Claus, a Christmas charity initiative dedicated to supporting the rehabilitation of paralysed and rescued dogs in Bengaluru.
Where: Mannheim Craft Brewery;
When: December 16, 4 pm

05 Play time

Kalagangotri Team is presenting 'Sooji Mallige', a heartfelt social drama filled with emotion and values, narrating the tale of a couple— two lives intertwined, walking hand in hand through the journey of togetherness.
Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar;
When: December 31, 7.30 pm

BBP welcomes new monkey residents

Park brings 8 capuchin monkeys under animal exchange programme from South Africa, strengthening its role in advancing ex-situ conservation and wildlife education



Primates are currently kept in quarantine facility and undergoing health checks

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Move aims to strengthen conservation initiatives, enhance genetic diversity of captive population, promote visitor awareness, and support scientific research

Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) is now home to eight black-capped capuchin monkeys.

The monkeys, consisting of four males and four females, were imported from the Induna Primate and Parrot Park in South Africa on December 14, under an animal exchange programme. This has been conducted to strengthen conservation initiatives, enhance genetic diversity of the captive population, promote visitor awareness, and support scientific research.

The import was carried out in compliance with all statutory and regulatory requirements. Prior approvals were obtained from the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) in New Delhi, along with No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from the Chief Wildlife Warden of Karnataka, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB).

Import permits were also obtained from the Directorate of Foreign Trade (DGFT) as per the guidelines prescribed by the Department of Animal Husbandry. Before arriving at Kempegowda International Airport, all animals were inspected and quarantined in South Africa in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Department of Animal Husbandry. Additionally, advanced NOCs were obtained from the Animal Quarantine Services before importation.

The capuchins are currently kept in a designated quarantine facility and are undergoing post-import health checks before they can be moved to the zoo premises for public display.

The exchange programme further strengthens BBP's role in advancing best practices in ex-situ conservation and wildlife education.

"We extend our sincere thanks to Induna Primate and Parrot Park in South Africa for this successful animal exchange and for joining hands in ex-situ conservation. Support was also extended by the Member Secretary of the Zoo Authority of Karnataka," BBP said in an official release on Monday.

KSFCSC tender clause ruled discriminatory

The Dharwad Bench of the Karnataka High Court has struck down a clause in a tender issued by the Karnataka State Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (KSFCSC), holding that it unfairly discriminated between owned and hired transport vehicles.

The tender, floated on September 20, 2025, invited bids for the transportation of paddy from procurement centres to rice mills and coarse grains to state storage facilities under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations. A corrigendum issued on October 10, 2025, introduced Clause 4(C), which required contractor-owned lorries to be less than 15 years old and possess a valid fitness certificate. In contrast, hired lorries of the same vintage were permitted as long as they held a fitness certificate.

The clause was challenged by businessman Rachappa S Mannagi of Haveri, who contended that the condition was inherently arbitrary. He argued that a contractor owning a vehicle older than 15 years was disqualified regardless of its fitness, while an identical vehicle could be used if it was hired. During the pendency of the petition, the High Court allowed Mannagi to participate in the bidding process through an interim order.

Opposing the plea, the state government and KSFCSC submitted that tender conditions could not be selectively questioned by bidders and that the petitioner had no right to challenge the terms after choosing to participate.

However, Justice M Nagaprasanna, in his judgment, found the distinction drawn by the tendering authority to be untenable. Accordingly, the High Court struck down Clause 4(C) introduced through the corrigendum notification. **–BMB**

State to verify claims of carcinogens in eggs

The Karnataka government has said it will verify viral claims on social media alleging the presence of a cancer-causing genotoxic substance in eggs, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said. Reacting to the reports, he stated that information would be sought from the Food Safety and Quality Department Commissioner and, if required, egg samples would be subjected to laboratory testing. He said the rumour was being taken seriously, but added that there was no need for the public to panic or stop consuming eggs at this stage.

The minister said the government would first examine the source of the claim, who conducted the alleged tests and whether there was any scientific basis to the findings before deciding on further action. The issue surfaced after posts on social media alleged that popular branded eggs contained genotoxic, cancer-causing elements. Food Safety and Quality Department has begun collecting details to ascertain whether any specific egg samples were identified, officials said. **–BMB**

School trips push up demand for govt buses

Demand for government buses for school excursions has risen by about 10 per cent following strict enforcement of rules mandating their use for educational tours. The move comes in the wake of a recent accident involving a private bus during a school trip that claimed the life of a student, prompting the Public Education Department to direct schools to use only state transport buses. With the academic excursion season set to end by December, departments expect further pressure as schools rush to complete trips within the limited time, making bus allocation a major challenge.

Officials say the tightened guidelines have now pushed private schools to seek government bus bookings, leading to higher demand. However, some private school managements have cancelled planned trips, citing parental reluctance and lack of amenities such as air-conditioning, sound systems and televisions in government buses. **–BMB**

GKVK campus gets Forestry Science Centre

The University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bengaluru, has set up a Forestry Science Centre at its Gandhi Krishi Vignana Kendra (GKVK) campus for the first time, with the aim of expanding forest cover and strengthening forest-based livelihoods. The centre will train farmers, researchers and local communities in forestry practices, promote afforestation and conservation of native plant resources, and support research and extension activities linked to sustainable use of natural resources. To build awareness among students and the public on forest conservation, the university has entered into an agreement with the Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST), which will provide annual financial support. The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) will supply improved tree species and forestry technologies, while all programmes will be taken to farmers through the university's Krishi Vigyan Kendras. **–BMB**

Towing to resume in B'luru by month-end?

With traffic congestion and parking violations worsening by the day, preparations are underway to restart towing operations across Bengaluru, with the civic body planning to roll out the drive by the end of the month. In coordination with traffic police, the GBA is gearing up to act against vehicles parked illegally on roadsides, footpaths and in front of houses, with such vehicles to be towed and fined under the Motor Vehicles Act. Officials said tenders have been floated to hire towing vehicles on a rental basis, with plans to begin operations in the first phase from Chalukya Circle to Hebbal and along the Outer Ring Road. Each city corporation is expected to get two towing vehicles, with the cost per set estimated at Rs 14.52 lakh.

While one towing vehicle is already available within GBA limits, more are expected to be inducted shortly. However, the lack of a central yard to park towed and abandoned vehicles could slow implementation. Discussions are also on to fix towing charges, which are likely to be paid to the GBA, with a proposal to levy around Rs 1,000 per vehicle under consideration. Towing vehicles are expected to be handed over to Traffic Police by the end of December. Officials said parking violations by two-wheelers, school vans and buses have been noticed on several stretches, and fines will be imposed strictly. Two-wheelers violating parking rules will face a fine of Rs 1,000, including Rs 500 under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, while other vehicles can be fined up to Rs 1,500, combining penalties under the MV Act and the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act. Enforcement will initially focus on high-traffic corridors. —BMB

bigbasket
A TATA Enterprise
Trim, Tune,
Toast & Brew
Your morning crew,
right on cue.
Electronic Essentials
Delivered in
10 Minutes!*
Free Delivery on your first 4 orders
Images are for illustration purposes only. *T&C apply. For more details, offers, terms & conditions visit the bigbasket app or log on to bigbasket.com/FAQ
PENTAGON 13226

CRIME FILES

Woman critically injured after fall from hotel balcony

A 21-year-old woman sustained serious injuries after jumping from the balcony of a private lodge in Kundanahalli in the early hours of Sunday, moments after police intervention over a loud noise complaint.

According to a complaint lodged by her father, the incident occurred at around 5 am on December 14 at SEA ESTA Lodge, located in AECS Layout, C Block, Brookefield, under the jurisdiction of HAL Police Station. The victim, identified as Vaishnavi, had gone to the lodge with a group of friends for a party. The group had reportedly booked three rooms at the lodge.

Police officials said that during the early morning hours, personnel from the HAL Police Station arrived at the lodge after receiving complaints about loud noise and disturbance to nearby residents. The complainant has alleged that the police scolded Vaishnavi for creating a ruckus, which caused her to panic.

In a state of fear, Vaishnavi allegedly tried to climb down using a pipe fixed to the exterior of the building from the 3rd floor but lost her balance and fell onto iron grills in the compound below, resulting in grievous injuries. Her friends immediately rushed her to Mahanandi Hospital, from where she was shifted to a hospital in Kundanahalli for further treatment. She is currently undergoing treatment at Kaveri Hospital, where her condition is said to be critical.

Following the incident, a case has been registered. The complaint has also raised questions over the safety measures at the lodge, alleging negligence on the part of the owner for failing to ensure adequate balcony safety. The family has sought a detailed inquiry and demanded that the role of the lodge staff, Vaishnavi's friends and the police personnel who visited the spot be examined. Investigators are examining CCTV footage and other evidence to establish the exact circumstances that led to the fall. —BMB

Businessman loses ₹ 8.3 cr to stock market fraud

A 71-year-old senior businessman from Ayodhya has fallen victim to a cyber fraud, losing Rs 8.3 crore after being lured into a fake stock market investment scheme in Bengaluru.

The victim, Rajendra Naidu, approached the Bengaluru Cyber Crime Police after realising he had been cheated.

According to the complaint, Naidu had taken a loan from Reliance Capital nearly 15 years ago, which he had repaid in full. Cyber fraudsters, who appeared to have accessed his financial history, contacted him with different unknown mobile numbers in September 2025, claiming his CIBIL score was strong and that he could earn high returns by investing in the stock market. Gaining his trust by using the name of Reliance Capital, they persuaded him to install a mobile application called RARCLLPRO.

Naidu initially transferred Rs 25 lakh via RTGS. The app displayed detailed investment activity and showed rapid profits, encouraging him to invest further. Over time, he transferred a total of Rs 8.3 crore in phases. The app later displayed a dividend of Rs 59.4 crore.

Trouble began when Naidu attempted to withdraw Rs 15 crore and was told to pay an additional Rs 2.70 crore as an 18 per cent service charge. Suspecting fraud, he immediately contacted the cybercrime helpline 1930 and lodged a complaint. A case has been registered and police have frozen Rs 61 lakh across multiple bank accounts linked to the fraudsters, and are investigating the case. —BMB

Pub, bar booked for operating past deadline

The Cubbon Park police have registered two separate cases against the management and staff of two popular pubs on St Marks Road and Residency Road for allegedly operating beyond permitted hours, in violation of government norms.

In the first case, based on specific inputs, a police inspection at around 1.30 am on December 11 found the pub on St Marks Road functioning beyond the stipulated closing time. During the inspection, customers were allegedly being allowed entry and services were continuing despite restrictions.

Based on the findings, a complaint was filed at Cubbon Park Police Station on December 14, following which a non-cognisable report was registered against the pub manager and other concerned persons.

In a similar incident, Cubbon Park police booked the manager and staff of another establishment on Residency Road. The complaint stated that the same police constable was assigned special night patrol duty on November 29, 2025. Acting on tip-offs, he inspected the premises at around 1.25 am on November 30 and found the establishment open beyond permitted hours, with customers allegedly availing services.

The violation was confirmed through CCTV footage, following which police registered NCR. Subsequently, police secured permission from the JMFC Traffic Court-I to register FIRs under Section 103 of the Karnataka Police Act in both cases for operating beyond permitted hours. Further investigation is underway. —BMB

Man accused of harassing lone women arrested

A man accused of targeting women traveling alone during evening hours—approaching those on foot or riding two-wheelers—has been apprehended by the police.

The accused, identified as Vinod T, worked at a sandwich outlet in the city. According to police, Vinod allegedly stalked women after 6 pm, focusing on those walking alone or riding two-wheelers. He reportedly took advantage of moments when riders slowed down near potholes or uneven roads, suddenly approaching them, grabbing or hugging them tightly, touching them inappropriately, and fleeing the spot on his two-wheeler. Police officials said the accused had been committing such acts for over a month and was emboldened by the absence of earlier complaints.

The case came to light after a woman lodged a complaint at the Kamakshipalya Police Station, stating that she was molested near Srinivasa Circle in Sunkadakatte on December 2 around 10 pm. In her complaint, the woman said that while she slowed her two-wheeler to avoid a pothole, the accused ran towards her, assaulted her, and escaped. Her husband, who was following her in a car, attempted to catch the accused but failed. A call to the emergency number 112 led to a swift police response.

With the assistance of Hoysala police and CCTV footage from the surrounding areas, the accused was traced and arrested. Further investigation is ongoing. —BMB

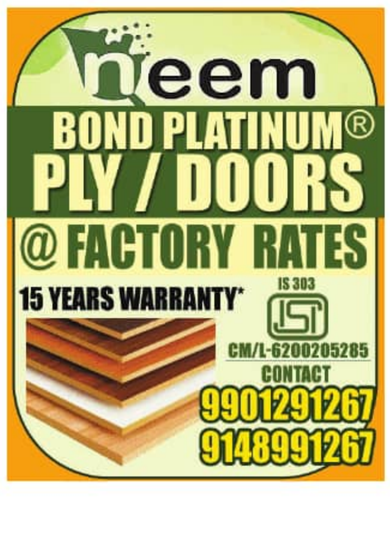
Hydroponic ganja worth Rs 2.16 crore seized at B'luru Airport

In a major operation against international drug trafficking, officials of the Bengaluru Customs Department intercepted a passenger at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) and seized a large quantity of high-grade narcotics.

The seizure was made after Customs officers stopped a passenger arriving from Bangkok. A detailed examination of the passenger's checked-in baggage led to the recovery of 6.19 kg of hydroponic ganja, a high-potency variety of cannabis increasingly linked to international smuggling networks.

According to Customs officials, the contraband has been valued at approximately Rs 2.16 crore in the illicit market. The passenger was taken into custody immediately after the recovery, and further investigation is underway to ascertain the source of the drugs and possible links to a larger trafficking syndicate.

The latest seizure adds to a growing list of narcotics cases detected at Bengaluru airport in recent months. Customs authorities have repeatedly flagged an increase in attempts to smuggle high-value drugs through international routes. —BMB



Final phase of repair work on Peenya flyover

Long-standing traffic restrictions on the Peenya flyover along Tumakuru Road are likely to end soon, with the structure expected to reopen for round-the-clock movement of all categories of vehicles once the final phase of repair work is completed. Officials said that of the 1,200 cables slated for replacement, only 30 remain, and the remaining work is expected to take around two months. A mandatory load test will then be conducted as per contract conditions, following which the flyover will be opened for 24x7 traffic on all days.

The 4.2-km-long flyover, passing through the Peenya industrial area, connects Goraguntepalya on Tumakuru Road to the Parle-G factory and serves as a critical corridor linking over 20 districts of Karnataka. Severe traffic congestion has affected the stretch for nearly four years due to prolonged restrictions.

Movement on the flyover was curtailed on December 25, 2021, after three cables

Flyover stabilisation work nears completion

between pillars 102 and 103 near the Eighth Mile junction were found bent. Following inspections by experts from the Indian Institute of Science, the National Highways Authority of India banned vehicular movement, citing damage caused by multi-wheel heavy vehicles. Subsequent load tests declared the structure unfit for heavy traffic.

Repair works were taken up in phases, with 240 new cables installed between 120 pillars in the first phase, followed by the replacement of all 1,200 cables in the second phase. As concreting was required after each installation, heavy vehicles were barred weekly from Wednesday 6 am to Thursday 6 am. With the cable replacement nearing completion, officials said the flyover would soon be stabilised, though a fresh load test will be conducted before fully restoring traffic. **–BMB**

Cantonment campus: All activity brought to halt

GBA officials intervene to halt RLDA activity clearing ground vegetation at Cantonment Railway Colony pending Tree Expert Committee site inspection

Pending TEC inspection, GBA orders stop to all clearing

| Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

GBA confirms no trees were felled, but orders authorities to halt all work at Cantonment Railway Colony until proper inspections and approvals are completed

City-based tree activists and residents near Cantonment railway station were in for a shock on Sunday morning when they spotted an earthmover on the Cantonment Railway Colony campus clearing trees and vegetation.

This development occurred within ten days of the state government reversing its earlier order to declare Cantonment Railway Colony a Biodiversity Heritage Site.

Following a complaint raised by a citizen on Monday, a team from the Forest and Climate Control Cell of Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) immediately rushed to the spot to stop the ongoing activity.

"The RFO has visited the site and confirmed that no tree has been felled. The earthmover was only to clear bushes and ground vegetation. However, we have asked the authorities to stop any kind of work. While the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) had submitted an application for the removal of trees, and we published the public notice, the Tree Expert Committee has yet to conduct a site inspection. Till that happens, no felling will be allowed," said Sudarshan GK, DCF, GBA.

"Citizens attended the public consultation organized by RLDA in hundreds, and they all opposed this project. Given the strong opposition by citizens, the project should have been shelved. Moreover, with TEC's site inspection and order still pending, even clearing of ground vegetation and bushes is illegal," said Vijay Nishant, founder of Project Vruksha.

A city-based environment organisation, "Parisarakkagi Naavu", with more than a thousand members across Karnataka, also plans to submit a petition against felling trees after the state government's recent notification to recall the biodiversity heritage tag of the cantonment.

This is after Bangalore Mirror published an article on November 10, informing that the Government of Karnataka, through a notification issued on December 6, has recalled its earlier notification declaring the 8.61-acre Cantonment Railway Colony campus a Biodiversity Heritage Site.

The Government notification dated 9 September 2025 had declared an 8.61-acre green area with 371 trees adjacent to the Railway Cantonment Station as a Biodiversity Heritage Site under Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act (BDA), 2002.

Volunteers start freeing trees from concrete

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Perhaps disturbed by the pathetic condition of many trees caused by concretisation, a group of volunteers has begun removing concrete around tree bases to ensure rainwater percolation. The volunteers, working under the banner of Bengaluru Hudugaru, have decided to devote a few hours every Sunday to freeing trees from concrete.

Known for earlier campaigns to remove nails from trees, the group is now extending its efforts to tackle concretisation. "Rainwater cannot percolate when concrete surrounds trees at many locations. It is like a person being unable to eat if their mouth is taped shut. The condition of some trees pushed us to spend time removing concrete so rainwater can reach the roots," said Vinod Kartavya, founder of Bengaluru Hudugaru.

He said the work is physically demanding. "We need pickaxes, digging bars and other equipment. So far, we have removed concrete around two trees on RV Road near Minerva Circle and two trees near Paakashala in Malleswaram. We will continue this

Volunteers, under the banner of Bengaluru Hudugaru, at work in Malleswaram

effort," he said.

Kartavya said their social media campaign has received encouraging support. "Our posts received six lakh views in two days," he said, adding that some property owners do not want trees in front of their buildings.

Jayashree M Rattihalli, a legal consultant, said she has been associated with Bengaluru Hudugaru for more than four years. "I have participated in many programmes organised by the group. I am happy to now help remove concrete around trees. We are receiving photographs of trees needing attention from across the city," she said.

Another volunteer, Budal Santosh, said he has been part of the group for four years. "Last Sunday, we removed concrete around two trees in Malleswaram. It took over two hours. I will continue participating every Sunday," he said.

Civic responsibility, activists say, lies with engineers of the Bengaluru city corporations, who must ensure adequate space around trees during road asphalting or footpath development. Ironically, contractors and engineers rarely inspect worksites or guide workers, allowing concrete to choke trees.

Bangalore Mirror earlier reported on December five how concrete footpaths continue to suffocate avenue trees, highlighting blocked rainwater flow, poor oversight and growing demands for urgent removal of concrete surrounding Bengaluru's trees. The volunteers say consistent citizen action and accountable civic oversight are essential to restore urban tree health and protect Bengaluru's diminishing green cover for future generations amid rapid infrastructure expansion and persistent neglect by authorities and private stakeholders alike.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

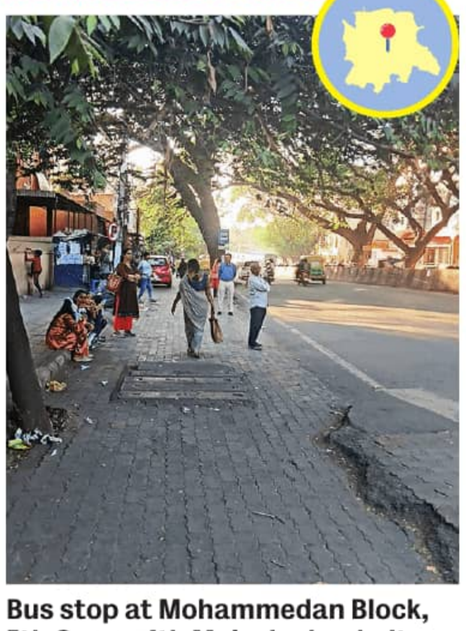
Road neglect
Hormavu

1st Cross Water Tank Road in Hormavu remains neglected following BWSSB work, with encroaching stones posing hazards to children and senior citizens

Waste hazard
HAL

New garbage dumping site along HAL service road remains unattended for over two months, raising accountability concerns.

No roof above
Mohammadan Block



Bus stop at Mohammedan Block, 5th Cross, 4th Main, lacks shelter, forcing commuters to endure harsh sun and rain.

Privacy row after society imposes overnight fine

A housing society in Bengaluru has come under sharp public scrutiny after imposing a Rs 5,000 fine on bachelor tenants for allowing two female friends to stay overnight at their apartment, reigniting debates around discrimination, privacy, and moral policing in urban residential spaces.

The incident occurred at a gated apartment complex earlier this month when the society's management issued a penalty notice to two male tenants the morning after the overnight stay. According to the tenants, the fine was imposed without prior warning or any written clarification of the rule that was allegedly violated.

The episode gained traction on social media after screenshots of the notice were shared online, triggering widespread criticism. Many users described the move as regressive and intrusive, questioning whether resident welfare associations have the authority to regulate personal relationships between consenting adults.

Legal experts point out that while housing societies may frame rules to ensure safety and order, such regulations cannot override constitutional rights.

A Bengaluru based lawyer said societies cannot impose arbitrary fines or enforce moral standards without evidence of nuisance, safety concerns, or illegal activity. Selective enforcement against bachelors, the lawyer added, could be legally challenged.

Some residents and association members, however, defended the restriction, arguing that visitor controls are intended to preserve security and harmony within the complex. A management committee member said the intention was not to target anyone but to prevent situations that might disturb other residents.

Critics counter that such explanations often conceal outdated ideas of propriety. They argue that moral policing is frequently presented as community welfare, while individual autonomy is ignored.

The incident reflects a wider pattern across Indian cities, where unmarried tenants face curfews, visitor bans, and surveillance despite paying equal rent and maintenance. As Bengaluru attracts a young migrant workforce, conflicts between conservative housing norms persist. **BMB**

Plastic ban gets serious Bengaluru wake-up call

Central and state pollution boards coordinate to enforce ban single-use plastics, intensify checks, awareness campaigns; weekly progress reports to be submitted

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has directed the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), along with other state pollution boards, to set up a state-level control room for enforcing the ban on single-use plastic (SUP) items.

Through the control room, KSPCB must provide weekly reports to the central pollution watchdog regarding implementation of the ban. CPCB will then prepare a national-level weekly compliance report on the SUP ban based on activities undertaken by state pollution control boards.

This step follows the establishment of a national control room by the central environment ministry for effective enforcement of the SUP ban. Operational from December 2025 to February 28, 2026, the control room will assist, guide, clarify, and provide information to stakeholders regarding the ban and coordinate awareness campaigns.

State pollution boards, including KSPCB, have also been directed to carry out awareness activities through social media campaigns and interactive sessions with industries, colleges, schools, and institutions. They must intensify inspections of industrial and commercial establishments for effective implementation.

City-based plastic waste experts say such measures are crucial, as the SUP ban, implemented in 2022, has largely failed in Bengaluru.

Plastic waste experts urge citizen participation support SUP ban enforcement

"Any new focus on enforcing the plastic ban gives hope because banned single-use items are still seen everywhere. In the early weeks of its formation, GBA announced raids on plastic manufacturers, and SWM volunteers hoped the floating stock would soon be confiscated, paving the way for sustainable alternatives. However, this has not materialised," said Odette Katrak, co-founder of Beautiful Bharat, a citizen volunteer group.

On July 1, 2022, CPCB directed all states, including Karnataka, to impose a strict ban on 19 single-use plastic items. Violators caught using, selling, manufacturing, distributing, importing, or stocking these products were to be penalised.

The banned items include earbuds with plastic sticks, balloon sticks, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice cream sticks, thermocol decorations, plastic plates, cups, glasses, cutlery, straws, trays, wrapping films, invitation cards, cigarette packets, PVC banners under 100 microns, and stirrers. The thickness threshold for the ban was later increased to 120 microns.

Experts note banned items continue to be widely used.

They say change requires a zero-tolerance approach, stronger citizen involvement, and awareness of banned items. Many products, including silver plates, pouches, bouquet plastic sheets, and shiny gift wrap, are freely used because people are unaware of the ban.

Seizing banned items and heavily fining manufacturers and wholesalers is critical. The responsibility also lies with consumers. Beyond avoiding banned items, citizens must reduce all single-use plastics and encourage reusable alternatives.

"Banned items include plastic earbuds, balloon sticks, flags, candy sticks, ice cream sticks, thermocol decorations, plates, cups, glasses, cutlery, straws, trays, wrapping films, invitation cards, cigarette packets, PVC banners, and stirrers

KHB announces discounted sites allotment

The Karnataka Housing Board (KHB) has announced the allotment of 332 residential sites in the Rajapur layout under the Surya Nagar project on Bengaluru's outskirts, offering a 50 per cent concession on site prices for Economically Weaker Sections. Located in Anekal taluk of Bengaluru Urban district, Surya Nagar has been developed in phases with residential sites and apartment projects.

The first phase featured apartment complexes such as Surya Divine and Surya Shine, followed by Surya Nisarga Valley, along with developed plots for individual housing. In the extended Rajapur layout of Surya Nagar Phase II, spread over about 176 acres, KHB is now offering 332 sites in 30x40, 30x50 and 40x60 dimensions.

The remaining sites will be allotted based on income categories including EWS, Low Income Group, Middle Income Group and High-Income Group, with priority to lower income groups. Allotment will be carried out through an e-lottery system in accordance with the Karnataka Housing Board Allotment Rules, 1983. The registration fee is non-refundable. Sites will be allotted on an outright sale basis, and all applications will be considered for e-lottery. **BMB**

Apartment buyers cry foul over corpus

Builders in Bengaluru are facing allegations of siphoning off crores of rupees collected from flat buyers as corpus funds meant for apartment maintenance, without transferring the money to residents' associations. Corpus funds are collected at purchase to meet maintenance needs and major repair works once apartments are occupied, as collecting money later becomes difficult. Residents allege that although this amount must be handed over to apartment associations after project completion and flat allotment, many builders retain the funds, forcing residents to pay again.

Resident associations say maintenance corpus amounts vary by project, with buyers typically paying between Rs 50,000 and Rs 2 lakh per flat. In a complex with 200 flats, this can total nearly Rs 4 crore. Bengaluru has over 2,000 apartment complexes, with hundreds more under construction, many large projects with hundreds or thousands of flats, pushing collections into several crores. Activist V Raju said builders cite absence of registered associations as justification, as the Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972, is yet to be formally notified. Activists term this malpractice, noting protests and complaints have brought little relief. **BMB**

Pontiff acquittal challenged in HC

The alleged victim in the POCSO case involving Murugha Mutt pontiff Dr Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru has approached the Karnataka High Court, challenging his acquittal by a Chitradurga trial court. Through her counsel Srinivas DC, the criminal appeal (CRL.A. No. 2498/2025) questions the November 26 verdict of the Second Additional District Judge. The appeal names the State, police, and accused including Sharanaru, hostel warden Rashmi, and former mutt secretary Paramashivayya.

The trial court had acquitted the accused, citing lack of corroboration in medical reports, inconsistencies in victim statements, and testimonies of four children residing in the mutt that contradicted allegations. It noted a long-standing property dispute between Sharanaru and former MLA SK Basavarajan, suggesting possible motives behind the complaint. The court also observed that no CCTV footage or immediate medical evidence supported claims of assault or forced expulsion.

Senior advocate CV Nagesh for Sharanaru highlighted irregularities in lodging the complaint and questioned the credibility of the allegations. The High Court appeal seeks to overturn the acquittal. **BMB**

Rental farce using dodgy agreements turns out to be elaborate scheme to evade taxes

Property management firm allegedly used dual agreements to enable hidden deposits, unpaid rents, questionable HRA claims, trapping owners, sub-tenants, authorities

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

All these years, Bengalureans are aware of greedy tenants or criminal property management firms cheating gullible property owners. There were instances of tenants claiming to be owners and leasing out the properties to pocket lakhs of rupees. The latest scam seems to cheat the government in the form of house rent allowance (HRA) exemption from the income tax (I-T).

A complex housing scam involving Catena Homes India Private Limited has now surfaced, revealing an alleged pattern of dual agreements and possible tax evasion, with homeowners and sub-tenants caught in legal and financial uncertainty. The scam reportedly involves tenants acting in collusion with the property management company to project standard rental arrangements, while concealing the actual financial and legal terms.

A property owner, requesting anonymity, said he entered into an agreement with Catena Homes and received rent only for a few months. "When I visited my apartment, I came to know that it had been leased out after collecting nearly 20 lakh. The company stopped paying rent, and I am struggling to pay my EMI. I was not aware that the tenant had paid such a huge amount to Catena Homes," he said.

For several years, sub-tenants across multiple apartment complexes occupied flats under arrangements facilitated by Catena Homes. While rental agreements were shared with housing associations and uploaded on digital platforms such as myGate, the actual relationship was governed by separate lease agreements between Catena Homes and the sub-tenants. These lease agreements typically involved substantial upfront deposits, ranging between 17 lakh and 20 lakh, and even higher for independent villas, along with longer lock-in periods.

Sub-tenants later produced lease agreements citing hefty deposits, contradicting rental documents earlier shared with housing associations and employers

Investigations reveal paired lease and rental documents masking large deposits, triggering tax scrutiny, frozen accounts, unpaid EMIs, legal battles, and exposing how a property management model collapsed, hurting homeowners badly

Document analysis of several properties shows paired agreements for the same apartment and subtenant — one lease agreement and one rental agreement.

In several housing complexes, lease agreements detail large deposits and multi-year terms, while rental agreements show modest deposits and regular monthly rents.

It is alleged that some sub-tenants may have used the rental agreements to claim Housing Rent Allowance from employers and the government, potentially misrepresenting their tenancy status. In several instances, the PAN number of Catena Homes was furnished instead of that of the actual property owner, attracting scrutiny from the income tax department. Officials reportedly initiated investigations into Catena Homes following these discrepancies.

The evidence suggests a coordinated attempt to maintain the appearance of conventional rental arrangements while concealing the real financial structure. This may have enabled sub-tenants to repeatedly benefit from tax exemptions, while Catena Homes retained control over properties and cash flows.

The situation escalated after income tax scrutiny reportedly led to the freezing of Catena Homes' accounts, affecting its ability to pay rents. As payments stopped, homeowners demanded arrears and possession of their properties, exposing the underlying business model.

Sub-tenants, realising the extent of the deception, have now begun filing legal injunctions, producing the actual lease agreements to prove the large sums paid.

Until the collapse of the scheme, many sub-tenants appeared to have participated in sustaining the façade.

Bangalore Mirror had earlier reported similar cases, including "Tenant poses as owner to lease out flat" on April 20, 2024, and "Rent scam: Victims at lurch, stage protest against inaction" on June 25, 2024, highlighting how both property owners and tenants were left aggrieved amid alleged inaction.

K'taka emerges as strategic minerals powerhouse

| Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Fresh geological surveys have reaffirmed Karnataka's position as one of India's mineral-rich states, with rare and strategic deposits identified across nearly 6.68 lakh hectares. Studies led by the Geological Survey of India, in collaboration with KIOCL, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited and the Atomic Minerals Directorate, and coordinated with the state Department of Mines and Geology, have confirmed the presence of gold, diamond, uranium, bauxite, copper, chromite, iron ore, magnetite, cobalt and kyanite.

The deposits span a wide geography, covering districts such as Bidar, Kalaburagi, Vijayanagara, Bagalkot, Raichur, Dharwad, Belagavi, Ballari and parts of coastal and southern Karnataka.

Preliminary surveys are under way at multiple locations and will be conducted in four phases. The department has shortlisted 57 areas for detailed exploration of gold, uranium, bauxite, nickel, copper and other minerals, although work in several sites is awaiting forest clearances. Manganese ore has been identified in Chitradurga, iron ore in Ballari, Haveri and Tumakuru, and bauxite along with other rare minerals in Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Belagavi and Hassan.

Around 13.53 sq km of coastal and hilly terrain has been earmarked for focused studies of minerals critical to renewable energy and defence sectors. Belagavi has been identified for uranium exploration, while traces of vanadium, vital for high-strength steel and next-generation battery technologies, have been found in Bidar. Officials said the findings align with India's push for mineral self-reliance and long-term energy security. **-BMB**

BM Trippin' Tales — Consumer Connect Initiative

Coastal festival turns Dakshina Kannada beaches into holiday hotspots

Two-month beach calendar targets Christmas-New Year travellers with food, sports, music and culture across Panambur, Tannirbhavi, Ullal and Sasihithlu beaches

| Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

With Bengaluru travellers finalising long Christmas and New Year breaks, the Dakshina Kannada district administration and the tourism department have rolled out a master plan to turn the coast into a major holiday magnet over the next two months. A packed list of programmes is being lined up across five key beaches to draw larger crowds from Bengaluru and other cities.

The initiative coincides with the launch of the Coastal Festival on December 20, with officials aiming to roll out an extended calendar of beach-centric events to sustain the current tourist surge and attract first-time visitors from Bengaluru seeking short festive getaways. The government has stepped in with financial support, while local stakeholders are also mobilising resources to scale up the celebrations across the coastline.

Once the Coastal Festival begins, parallel events will be hosted at major beaches including Tannirbhavi, Tannirbhavi Blue Flag Beach, Sasihithlu, Panambur, Ullal and Someshwar. These locations are expected to be the primary draw for Bengalureans looking to combine leisure, culture and food along the coast during the holiday season.

Tourism officials line up beach-centric programmes to sustain visitor interest through December and January across key coastal destinations

The opening weekend on December 20 and 21 will see Panambur Beach host volleyball matches, sand art displays and water sports, while Tannirbhavi Beach will feature a wine and cake festival alongside cultural programmes, adding a festive flavour for visitors. The momentum will continue on December 27 and 28 at Sasihithlu Beach, where a seafood festival, stand-up paddling, kayaking races, country boat races and cultural events are planned, offering a deeper coastal experience for tourists travelling down from Bengaluru.

Some beaches such as Surathkal, Chitrapura and areas near Iddya in Mangaluru will not host events this year. However, officials said basic infrastructure upgrades are being planned so these locations can be included in future editions, expanding the range of beach destinations available to tourists.

"This year, special focus has been placed on beach-centric events to attract more tourists during the Coastal Festival. Programmes will run throughout the month. The government has sanctioned Rs 2 crore for the festival, and additional funds will be raised locally," said Raju K, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Dakshina Kannada.

The celebrations will extend well into the New Year. A musical evening featuring well-known singers is planned at Tannirbhavi Beach in early January. Ullal Beach will host beach football, tug of war and a food festival on January 10 and 11, followed by an international-level kite festival at Tannirbhavi Beach on January 17 and 18. The beach festivities will conclude with a grand finale on January 23, 24 and 25 across Someshwar, Tannirbhavi Blue Flag Beach and Tannirbhavi Beach, featuring music shows, Zumba dance sessions and a range of cultural performances

From 105 to 9: Dramatic drop in severe malnutrition cases

Parents, volunteers and local leaders join forces in a low-cost, tech-driven initiative that's turning the tide on malnutrition

INFOCUS MALNUTRITION

A community-driven nutrition programme implemented in Karnataka has demonstrated measurable success in reducing child malnutrition, offering a scalable model to address one of India's most persistent public health challenges, according to a new scientific commentary published in the Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care, titled "The Malnutrition Turnaround: A Proof of Concept of the End Malnutrition Initiative in Karnataka, India."

The research was led by public health experts from the Edward & Cynthia Institute of Public Health (ECIPH) and the Department of Public Health, Yenepoya Deemed-to-be University, Mangaluru.

India continues to battle high levels of child malnutrition, particularly among children under five, as highlighted by the National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5, 2019–2021). The data reveal that 32.1% of children are stunted and 19.3% are wasted nationally.

Karnataka mirrors this worrying trend, with sharp regional disparities exposing the uneven burden of undernutrition across the state.

While urban Mysuru reported a wasting rate of 21.6%, lower than the state average of 27.1%, rural regions present a far grimmer picture. A regional study in Yadgir district recorded 15.3% wasting and a staggering 53.6% stunting, underscoring the deep-rooted problem of both acute and chronic malnutrition in rural Karnataka. Adding to the crisis, severe acute malnutrition (SAM) affects over 10% of children, driven by inadequate dietary intake and compounded by infections, placing thousands at risk of irreversible developmental damage.

Responding to this challenge, ECIPH in Mangaluru designed and implemented the End Malnutrition Initiative (EMI)—a flagship programme aimed at addressing nutritional risks through a community-centred, low-cost, and sustainable approach.

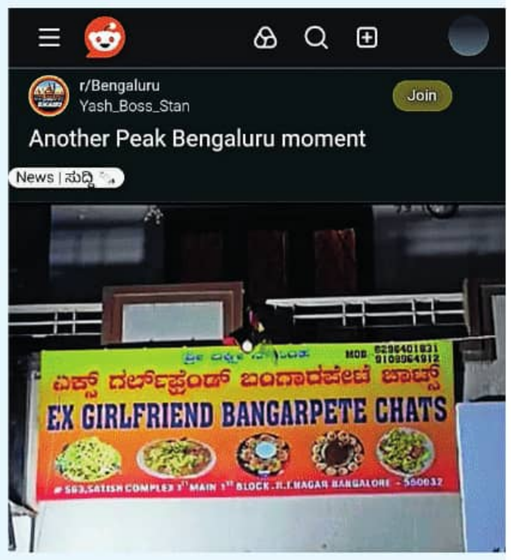
"In response to this crisis, the EMI was conceptualised to address cascading risks and bottlenecks by building co-ownership of nutritional needs. The initiative focuses on parental ownership, early detection, efficient monitoring, low-cost dietary interventions, nutritional boosters, and multisectoral collaboration using public health diplomacy," said Dr Edmond Fernandes, Cynthia Centre for Research and Policy, at the Edward & Cynthia Institute of Public Health.

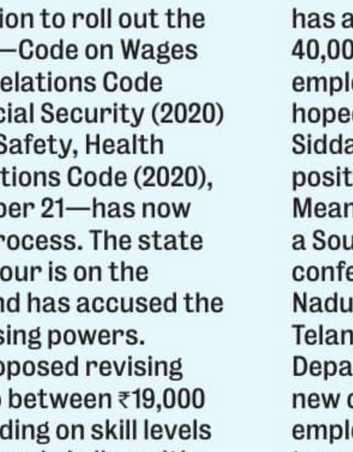
Unlike conventional top-down interventions, EMI placed families and communities at the centre of action. The programme focused on capacity-building for parents, Anganwadi workers, community volunteers, and faith-based leaders, empowering them with knowledge and practical tools to combat malnutrition. Parents were trained to prepare low-cost, energy-rich meals using locally available ingredients, with food menus shared across communities to ensure consistency.

Volunteer networks conducted random monitoring, while tech-savvy parents shared meal videos. Weekly weight checks tracked progress, and malnourished children were mapped for targeted ECIPH interventions. Community ownership, supported by local influencers, drove results. SAM cases fell from 105 in January 2022 to nine by March 2023, while MAM dropped from 1,067 in September 2022 to around 300 by March 2023. Scientific analysis confirms EMI as a scalable model emphasising community engagement, parental ownership, low-cost dietary changes, and nutritional literacy. **— Iffath Fathima**

SOCIALTATTLE

That went viral
In another instance reflecting Bengaluru's quirky urban culture, a post shared on Reddit under r/bangalore has gone viral after a user, Yash_Boss_Stan, posted a photograph of an eatery named "Ex Girlfried Bangarpete Chats."




BangaloreBoy
@0Bangaloreboy
Follow
Day 53: Vehicles continue to block space behind Sunkadakatte bus stop, stopping pedestrian flow daily. Over 50 days and still no action from authorities.
@BWCCofficial @blrcitytraffic @kmpalyatrfps @osd_cmkarnataka @GBA_office @GBAChiefComm @DKShivakumar #Bengaluru #GBA
BangaloreBoy @0Bangaloreboy · 19 Sept
Another day, same story at Sunkadakatte.The illegal parking behind the bus stop makes it impossible for people to walk.Why is a simple issue like this being ignored by authorities?This demotivates citizens from using public transport...

What's Tweeting
It was posted by user @0Bangaloreboy that for the 53rd consecutive day, vehicles continue to block the space behind the Sunkadakatte bus stop, disrupting pedestrian movement, with no action taken by the authorities despite the issue persisting for over 50 days.

Bangalore Mirror tagged
A major reduction in diabetes cases has been recorded in Karnataka, highlighting the effectiveness of state-level health protocols, a post by the Karnataka Health Department (@DHFWKA) stated while tagging Bangalore Mirror's article.

Karnataka Health Depart...
@DHFWKA
Follow
Karnataka records major reduction in Diabetes Cases, highlighting effective state-level protocols.
@CMofKarnataka @DKShivakumar @KarnatakaVarthe
Karnataka achieves notable diabetes reduction this year
Cases fell from 1.16 million to 0.81 million in a year, contrasting rises in Gujarat and Maharashtra
Karnataka reports 30% drop in diabetes cases, yet remains top five nationally, reflecting successful interventions amid rising nationwide burden

INBRIEF

Vote season violence fuels hate law battle

A serious debate has emerged in Karnataka over the proposed Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2025, amid police data indicating a steady rise in political, communal and religious conflicts across the state. According to official records, 1,273 cases linked to communal and religious tensions were registered over the past five years, with a clear spike during election periods.

The trend intensified during and after recent elections. In 2023, the year of the Assembly polls, police recorded 245 such cases. The number rose to 279 in 2024 and has already reached 346 so far in 2025. During the Lok Sabha election year of 2024, a total of 346 cases were registered, including 70 incidents reported in April and May, making it one of the highest tallies in recent years. Data also show serious crimes linked to these conflicts, with 28 cases of attempted murder reported in 2023, compared with 12 in 2024 and six so far in 2025. Senior officials attribute most caste, communal and religious clashes to hate speech, warning that the situation is worsening year on year. The proposed Bill, expected to be debated in the Assembly this week, prescribes imprisonment ranging from one to seven years and fines, with penalties extending up to 10 years for repeat offenders. While some groups have opposed the Bill, former Supreme Court judge Justice Santosh Hegde has stressed the urgent need to curb hate speech, noting that public incitement often leads directly to violence. Police officials have also supported stricter regulation, citing increased law-and-order pressures, especially during elections. **BMB**

Centre vs state: Wage hike in limbo

The state government's long-pending exercise to revise minimum wages has slipped into uncertainty following the Centre's move to implement four labour codes, potentially stalling a process that has been underway for over two years. Since 2022–23, the Karnataka government had held multiple rounds of consultations under Labour Minister Santosh Lad, agreeing in principle to workers' demands and inviting opinions, suggestions and objections. However, a final notification could not be issued.

The Centre's decision to roll out the four labour codes—Code on Wages (2019), Industrial Relations Code (2020), Code on Social Security (2020) and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020), notified on November 21—has now complicated the process. The state maintains that labour is on the Concurrent List and has accused the Centre of centralising powers. Karnataka had proposed revising minimum wages to between ₹19,000 and ₹31,000, depending on skill levels and the nature of work, in line with Supreme Court guidelines laid down in the Raptakos Brett case. The proposal has attracted nearly 40,000 objections, largely from employers. Lad said the government hoped to secure Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's approval and take a positive decision soon.

Meanwhile, Karnataka is planning a South Indian labour ministers' conference in January, with Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana expected to participate. Department sources warn that the new codes could weaken permanent employment and exacerbate fixed-term job insecurity. Lad said detailed objections would be submitted to the Union government. **BMB**

11 lakh kids to get polio jab in mega drive

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has set an ambitious target to achieve 100 per cent Pulse Polio coverage across its limits, with plans to vaccinate 1.134 million children under five years of age between December 21 and 24.

Chairing a virtual review meeting, Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao directed officials to take all necessary measures under the National Pulse Polio Programme to ensure no child is missed. He stressed the importance of extensive public awareness and instructed officials to deploy additional mobile vaccination teams in high-footfall areas such as bus stands, railway and metro stations, markets, malls, parks, tourist spots and slum localities. He also called for active coordination with over 2,700 apartment complexes in the city and sought the involvement of nursing, medical and paramedical students as volunteers. Chief Health Officer Dr S S Madani said vaccination booths would operate on December 21 from 8 am to 5 pm, followed by door-to-door visits from December 22 to 24. Mobile teams would function throughout the four days in migrant settlements and densely populated areas.

A total of 4,452 booths, including fixed, transit and mobile teams, have been planned, supported by 17,808 volunteers and 881 supervisors. Awareness campaigns through auto announcements, posters, rallies and public displays are already underway across the city. **BMB**

New prison chief sets Dec 31 deadline for Central jail clean-up

Karnataka Director General of Police (Prisons) Alok Kumar on Monday set December 31 as the deadline for the authorities at the Parappana Agrahara Central Prison here to put an end to all illegal activities at the jail and set things right at the facility.

He also stressed the need to meet the staff requirements at the prisons in the state, aimed at improving their overall functioning and the conditions there.

Kumar, who recently took over as DGP Prisons, on Monday visited the Parappana Agrahara central prison here, which was in the news recently, after videos purportedly showed inmates, including notorious criminals and a terror suspect, enjoying preferential treatment inside.

"As there was lots of news and controversies surrounding Parappana Agrahara prison, I visited to inquire about the system, staff, issues faced by prisoners and staff, also security arrangements, among other things. I have got the preliminary idea, and actions have to be initiated stage by stage," Kumar said. He said the Karnataka State Industrial Security Force (KSISF), which guards the prison, jail staff and the local police need to work as a team.

"Directions have been issued to put an end to illegal activities at the prison, I have given 15 days' time to set things right. December 31 deadline has been set, to set right the system, and deficiencies if any. If anything happens thereafter, strict action will be taken," he added. **PTI**

Story of two lakes: This may not end well

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bottles on the lake bund without any hassle. Soil and construction & demolition materials were seen dumped on the lake bund on Seegehalli Road. A portion of the fence had been removed to facilitate dumping of truck loads of muck. The lake is full of weeds and sewage is flowing into it through the storm water drain that is supposed to carry rain water in.

Subhajit Ghosh, a resident of Medahalli, said that despite assurances made after the visit, including public statements that encroachment removal and fencing would begin within 10 days, there has been no visible progress on the ground. "Instead, illegal dumping and garbage burning continue unabated on the western side of the lake near NH-75 and Concorde Apartments. Fencing work has come to a complete halt, and there is no clarity on the lake's custody or the transition from the Minor Irrigation Department to the Bengaluru East City Corporation or Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA). Untreated sewage continues to enter the lake, which is now choked with weeds, emanates foul odour, and is a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Local residents feel helpless and urge authorities to take immediate action—otherwise, the complete death of this lake is imminent," Ghosh said.

Bangalore Mirror has repeatedly brought the issue of the sad state of the lake to authorities' notice too, but action has remained perfunctory.

Expressing concern over the deteriorating condition of the lake, M Eshwarappa of Right to Water, said the authorities must take measures to protect the water body. "The pathetic condition of the lake filled with filth and weeds is a testimony for the negligence and apathy of the minor irrigation department and elected representatives," he said.

Incomplete bridge at Vengaiah Lake

Incomplete bridge

Vengaiah Lake, rejuvenated at an estimated cost of Rs 4 crore, was in the news recently when citizens reported untreated sewage flowing into it. Now, it is again in the news for incomplete bridge work on the eastern side.

The result of the incomplete work is that residents who want to visit the lake for a walk in the morning are not allowed in. The transition of the civic body from Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and the newly formed corporations came in the way of developmental works at Vengaiah Lake. The transfer of lakes from the Lakes Department to the jurisdictional city corporations has also created confusion among engineers and lake activists. "There are many problems at Vengaiah Lake. We do not know whom to approach. If we contact lake engineers, they tell us to contact the ward engineer who in turn asks us to contact the engineer of the lakes department," said Raghotham.

He said the security guards are not allowing residents to walk on the pathway citing safety issues. "The construction of the bridge on the eastern side of the lake is incomplete," he said.

Rajesh Mahajan, a resident of the area, said the authorities concerned must complete the work without delay. "Let the authorities expedite the completion of all pending works at the lake. Pending work will defeat the purpose of having spent crores of rupees for the rejuvenation of the lake," Mahajan said.

Stating that the developmental works at the lake have been pending for long, Purushothaman, a resident of Thambuchetty Palya, said the authorities have failed to stick to timelines. "The walking path is not in a good condition. They must not delay the work any further," he said.

Assistant Executive Engineer (KR Puram Division) Ramesh said the lakes department has not handed the lake to KR Puram ward. "The Lakes Department has to complete all the remaining work," he said.

Your Connect

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Gourav Kumar Sing S/o Raghubansh Narayan Singh, residing at M 1/3, Upper Road Bunrpur, P.S. Hirapur, Dist-Paschim Bardhamman, 713325 (W.B.) have changed my name to Yashwanth Kumar Singh for all purpose vide Affidavit dated 05.12.2023, sworn before the 1st Class Executive Magistrate at Asansol court.

I, Deeksha Hiremath W/o Shivakumar Hiremath , R/o No 22 17th F Cross Old Madras Road Indiranagar 2ND Stage B'luru-560038 have changed my name to Dakshayani Nadurmath Chinnayya for all Purposes.

I, SHAMSHAD, R/a .# 3889,8th Cross, Abdul Gafoor Layout, Vivekananda Nagar, Bangarpet -563114. I, have Changed my name to SHAMSHAD BEGUM, Vide affidavit, dated 12/12/2025 Sworn before Notary: R. Basavaraja. Bangalore

I, Shivanand Vittal Shenoy S/o Mankey Vittal Rao Shenoy, R/o Siddha Basil Apts C003 Site No 14 1st Main Road 1st Block BEL Layout Vidyaranyapura B'luru-560097 have changed my name to Shivanand Shenoy for all Purposes

I, PRAMILA V, R/at. No.8, Swamy Mudaliar Street, Kamaraj Road Cross, B'lore-01. I Declare that have changed To PRAMILA RAJENDRA, Vide Affidavit Dtd.12.12.2025 sworn before Notary-Devaraja E,

I, Ganapathi Sundaram S/o Ganapathi Ananthanarayanan Iyer, R/at D602, Definer Hi Life, Maragondanahalli Main Road, Maragondanahalli, K.R.Puram, Bangalore 560036, added mysurname Iyer to my name in 1993 while applying for PAN. I have declared new name as Sundaram Ganapathi Iyer in frontof Notary Nijagunaradhya Bangalore vide affidavit dated 16-12-2025

I, RAMAGOPALA REDDY PAGIREDDY R/at S.No.2, Flat 403,Ultimate Dreams Bala Murugan, Temple Street, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru-560075 have changed my name to RAMAGOPAL REDDY PAGIREDDY vide affidavit dated: 15/12/2025 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore

I, Shyam Sunder Rao S P s/o Prakash Rao S G, R/o #766 2nd Block 6th Stage Near Bharat Petrol Bunk Banashankari Bengaluru-560098 have changed my name to Manjunath Rao vide Affidavit Dt: 15/12/2025 Before Notary B S Padmaprasad B'luru.

I Shiva Prasad Ajjampura Eshwarappa, S/o Eshwarappa K N, R/o 3599 kote beedi Nelamangala have changed my name from Shivaprasada Ajjampura Eshwarappa to Shivaprasad Ajjampura Eshwarappa

I Ankit R Thakkar S/O, Rajendra Thakkar R/o No 563 1st Floor, 27th Mn 3rd Cross, Btm 2nd Stage Bg Rd Bangalore 560076, Karnataka, India have changed my name to Ankit Thakkar.

I, FASEEHA KAUSER, R/a .# 423/1, 12th Cross, Devarajaurs Nagar, Bengaluru 560026. I, have Changed my name to FASEEHA KOUSER vide affidavit dated 12/12/2025 Sworn before Notary: R. Basavaraja. Bangalore

I, SAYEDA HUSNA, R/a.# 21, Behind Airtel Tower, Medimallasandra,Bengaluru 560067. I, have Changed my name to SYEDA HUSNA, Vide affidavit, dated 25/11/2025 Sworn before Notary: R. Basavaraja. Bangalore

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

WHITEFIELD

4.5 BHK Premium villa at 4cr with 3 car parks in a gated community, Nagondanahalli, Whitefield Call: 9900181309

Bennett & Coleman
THE TIMES OF INDIA
Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. All creatives marked as Advertorial, Spotlight and Promotional Features are to be treated as Advertisements. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

GALLERIA

Nirmala Travels® Presents
Ph No. 0824 2497051/54, 9663518877, 9663528877, 9686687771/2/3/4
visit us @ www.nirmalatravels.com
TRICHY RAMESHWARAM KANYAKUMARI 5/7*10** DAYS
DEC: 20, 21, 21*, 22**, 24, 25**, 26, 27, 28* JAN: 16, 21, 26
ANDHRA PRADESH WITH STATUE OF EQUALITY 10/6* DAYS
DEC: 22, 25, 28* JAN: 1, 4*, 11, 11*, 18*, 21, 25*
SHIRDI NASIK/PANCHA JYOTHIRLINGA* 7* DAYS
DEC: 21, 28, JAN: 4, 5*, 11, 12*, 18, 19*, 25, 26*
KERALA SPECIAL/ NAVAGRAHA DARSHAN* 7/4* DAYS
DEC: 21, 22*, 28, 29* JAN: 1, 5*, 11, 12* 18, 19*, 25, 26*
SOUTH INDIA 7/10* DAYS EX: MANGALORE DEC: 22, 22* 29 JAN: 19, 26
SOUTH INDIA 9/11* DAYS EX: HUBBALLI JAN: 16*, 20, 27* 30

Chanderi & Maheshwari
Saree Festival
13th to 28th Dec. 2025
Exclusive Designer Block Print & Traditional Handwoven Chanderi, Maheshwari, Kosa Silk Sarees, Handloom Bed Covers in Batik, Bagh, Chemical Print, Dress Materials, Dupatta etc.
Madhya Pradesh Govt. Emporium
Mrignayanee
Art from the heart
UP TO 20% OFF
Venue:
CHITRAKALA PARISHATH
Kumara Krupa Road,Bengaluru-560001.
Mob: 7353857787

Caught on camera, cops in soup

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the traffic police to penalise violators when enforcement officers themselves are seen flouting the law in full public view.

Confirming the directive, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Karthik Reddy said the memo was intended to send a clear message within the department. "It's a general memo to all my officers that we need to wear helmets or seat belts while driving. Failure to wear them will invoke fines as per the IMV Act and departmental action if required," he said.

The memo states that obedience to traffic regulations is not limited to citizens alone but applies equally, if not more strictly, to police officers entrusted with enforcing the law. "If traffic police personnel violate traffic rules while on duty, it weakens enforcement and invites public criticism," the memo states.

Senior officials pointed out that traffic police remain under constant public observation and are expected to set an example on the roads. "When enforcement authorities fail to follow the rules, it sends the wrong message and undermines road safety efforts," a senior officer said.

IMV Act action warned

The memo carries a clear warning that any violations detected in the coming days will invite action against erring officers under the provisions of the Indian Motor Vehicles (IMV) Act, apart from departmental consequences.

Road safety experts say the move is essential at a time when traffic police actions are routinely documented and scrutinised online. "In the age of smartphones and social media, every violation is recorded. If traffic police do not follow the rules they enforce, the department risks becoming a laughing stock," a road safety expert said.

SWEET BUT RISKY: THE GUMMY VITAMIN BOOM

As vitamin gummies grow popular among children in Bengaluru, paediatricians caution against overuse and hidden health risks

Iffath Fathima
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru is witnessing a growing trend of parents giving vitamin gummies to their children, drawn by the fruity flavours, colourful shapes and ease of consumption compared with traditional syrups and tablets. According to reports, gummies have gained a significant share of the child supplement market, and the gummy supplement market is projected to grow. However, paediatricians have cautioned that excessive intake can lead to serious health issues.

Amid growing awareness about immunity and nutrient gaps, people are increasingly looking for simple ways to supplement their diets. Gummy vitamins, which provide key nutrients in a tasty and convenient form, have become popular among both children and adults.

Dr Bhaskar Shenoy, HOD and Consultant – Paediatrics at Manipal Hospital, Old Airport Road, notes that gummies are increasingly popular because children find them more palatable than tablets or syrups. "The daily dose of gummies depends on the age and nutritional requirements of the child, usually one to two per day. Gummies are consumed more readily than syrups and tablets, as many children avoid these due to their unpleasant taste," he said.

He cited a recent case in which a two-year-old child consumed 10–15 gummies, resulting in vomiting. "Thankfully, the situation was not serious, but it could have been worse. Not all cases end safely," he added.

Health professionals also pointed out that while there is a growing trend in Bengaluru, not all children require vitamin and mineral supplements. "Most children do not need them unless there are dietary restrictions. For example, a child with a cow's milk allergy may require extra calcium, or a child on a vegan diet may need additional vitamin B12. Supplements are not a substitute for food; the best source of vitamins and minerals is a balanced diet including vegetables, fruits, grains, nuts and seeds," said Dr Polepaka.

> **Excess intake can harm organs, affect growth, and cause vitamin toxicity, highlighting the need for cautious, age-appropriate use**

While gummies are convenient, Dr Polepaka stresses that syrups and tablets remain preferable for precise dosing, especially for younger children and those with specific deficiencies. "Gummies may have lower vitamin content, and overconsumption can cause toxicity, particularly with vitamins A, D, E and K. They also contain sugar, which can lead to dental problems and digestive issues if consumed in excess."

Dr Shenoy warned of the dangers of overconsumption. "Parents should be more cautious, as gummies are attractive and children tend to eat more than recommended. Overeating can lead to nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and other complications. Iron overload can affect internal organs. Excess vitamin A can cause vision problems or clumsiness, and too much vitamin D can lead to constipation. Vitamins E and K, when consumed in excess, can cause bleeding, and similar side effects can occur with other vitamins," he said.

Dr Polepaka added that studies show overdosing on gummies can lead to vitamin A or vitamin D toxicity. "In my practice, parents often ask whether multivitamins are required for their child. We prescribe them only when necessary, as not all children need them. Indications for supplementation include vegetarian diets lacking vitamin B12, recurrent infections linked to vitamin D or zinc deficiency, poor weight gain, picky eating, or low iron or haemoglobin levels. For general supplementation, gummies are convenient, but they should be low in sugar and limited to the correct dosage. For specific deficiencies such as iron, vitamin D or zinc, syrups or tablets are preferable, and medical advice should be sought."

MIRRORLIGHTS

Lifestyle changes in prediabetes may halve cardiovascular disease risk

Bringing blood glucose into the normal range through lifestyle changes could halve the risk of a heart attack, heart failure and premature death among people with prediabetes, according to a study.

Findings published in The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology show that remission of prediabetes — achieving normal blood glucose levels — may establish a new, measurable target for clinical guidelines, researchers said.

A fasting blood glucose value of under 97 milligrams per decilitre proved to be a simple marker for a persistently lower risk of heart disease, regardless of age, weight or ethnic background, the researchers added.

This threshold could be applied in primary care practices worldwide, making prevention more tangible.

"Our results suggest that remission of prediabetes not only delays or prevents the onset of type 2 diabetes, as already known, but also protects people from serious cardiovascular disease in the long term, over decades," said lead author Dr Andreas Birkenfeld, a board member of the German Centre for Diabetes Research and medical director of the Department of Medicine at University Hospital Tübingen.

The team, including researchers from the US and China, analysed long-term data from more than 2,400 people with prediabetes. Participants' risk of cardiovascular death was reduced by roughly 50 per cent, alongside a significant reduction in overall mortality.

The US study followed participants for 20 years, while the Chinese study tracked participants for 30 years.

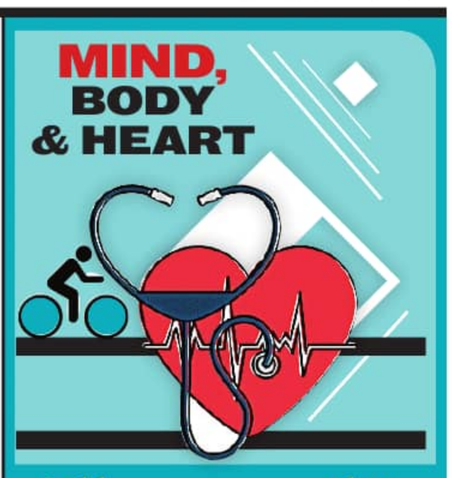
Cardiovascular prevention has so far rested on three pillars — blood pressure control, lowering LDL cholesterol and smoking cessation. With the new findings, a fourth pillar could be added — sustained normalisation of blood glucose in prediabetes, the team said.

"Achieving remission of prediabetes is linked to decades-long benefits, halving the risk of cardiovascular death or hospitalisation for heart failure across diverse populations. Targeting remission may represent a new approach to cardiovascular prevention," the authors wrote.

Birkenfeld said: "We see a clear therapeutic window. If glucose levels are normalised at the prediabetes stage, the long-term risk of heart attack, heart failure and premature death can be markedly reduced."

"Our data support explicitly anchoring remission as a primary treatment goal in guidelines for the prevention of diabetes and cardiovascular disease," he added.

—PTI



All you need to know about...

California almonds

For many modern couples, mornings are no longer just about alarms and routines but shared rituals that set the tone for the day. A simple bowl of California Almonds has become a quiet expression of care, prioritising both health and connection. Easy to enjoy at home or on the go, almonds fit seamlessly into today's fast-paced lifestyles.

A powerhouse to begin the day
Packed with 15 essential nutrients, including vitamin E, magnesium and protein, California Almonds help convert food into energy. This makes them ideal for couples navigating busy wedding schedules, from venue visits to dance rehearsals, while staying energised throughout the day.

A hearty ritual
When included in a balanced diet, almonds support cardiovascular health by helping reduce cholesterol and inflammation. They also promote satiety, aiding weight management by curbing mid-morning cravings—an added benefit during the stress of wedding planning.

A natural glow before the big day
Healthy fats and vitamin E in California Almonds support skin health, helping brides and grooms achieve a natural glow.

For the fitness-focused couple
Almonds fit easily into workout routines, aiding muscle performance and recovery during intense training or dance sessions.

A healthy gut, a happy heart
Almonds may ac
t as a prebiotic, supporting gut health and overall well-being amid wedding stress.

Versatile and easy
From smoothies to yoghurt and almond milk, California Almonds keep couples nourished, energised, and ready for the day ahead.

—Femina

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

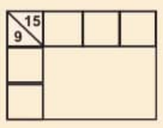
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

8 ? 2 ? 6 ? 3 ? 7 ? 5 ? 4 ? 0 ? 9 ? 1 = 0

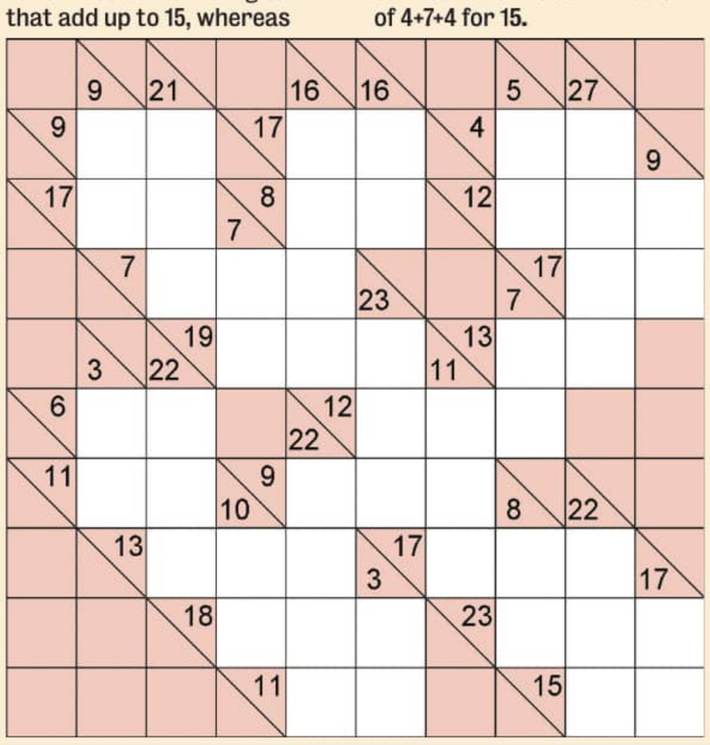
A ? can be a +, –, x or / only. Parentheses and brackets are not allowed. BODMAS applies here. What must the individual ?'s be for the equation to be valid?

Kakuro

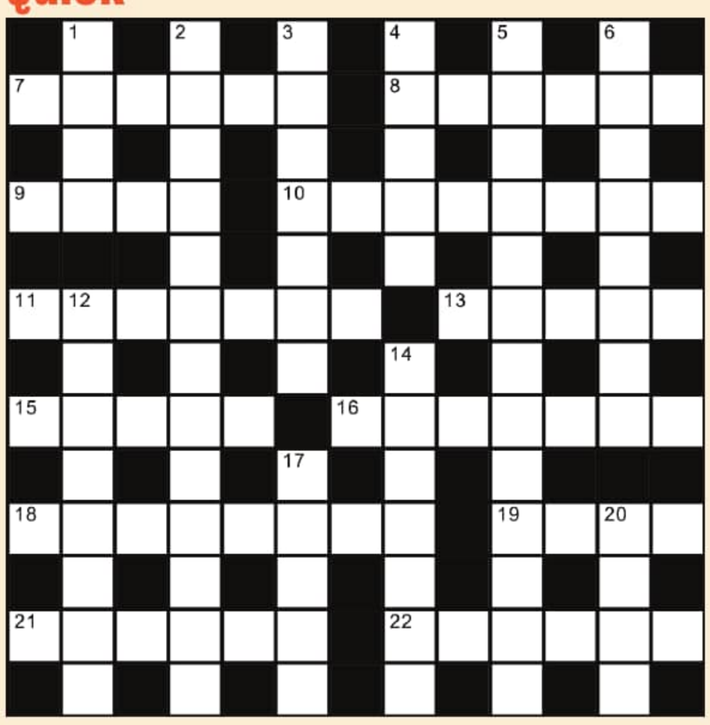
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Worlds largest country (6)
8 Hunting dogs (6)
9 Former Yugoslav leader (4)
10 Rural dweller (8)
11 Killings (7)
13 Units of length (5)
15 Wild animal (5)
16 Lustrous material (7)
18 Offends grossly (8)
19 Irritates (4)
21 Nearer (6)
22 Attacked and robbed (6)

DOWN

1 Japanese mountain (4)
2 He is __ ___ __ ___ : he is a fearlessness person? (2,4,2,5)
3 American university (7)
4 Dynasty which ruled the area around Bangalore in the 11th century (5)
5 The more extreme members of a group or community (7,6)
6 Staunch follower (8)
12 Helpfully or serviceably (8)
14 Amounts paid to kidnappers (7)
17 Ancient marketplace (5)
20 Bollywoods Anupam ___ (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: X EQUALS S

YZL QGOVH QWJOXOYAX GAQ EGPOCX EGTW G EZRW ONUGJC ZUYA PYCE YZL VWTWVX YB EGUUOAWXX GAQ XZJJWXX.

Linemaro

Hi, my name's Microsoft, can I crash at your place?

Mindchow

The way to love something is to realise it might be lost

Joke of the day

You really want to know how you look like to other people? Have a child draw you

Loop

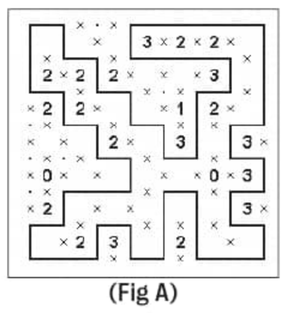
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

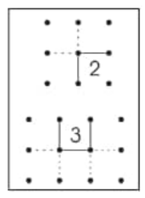
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

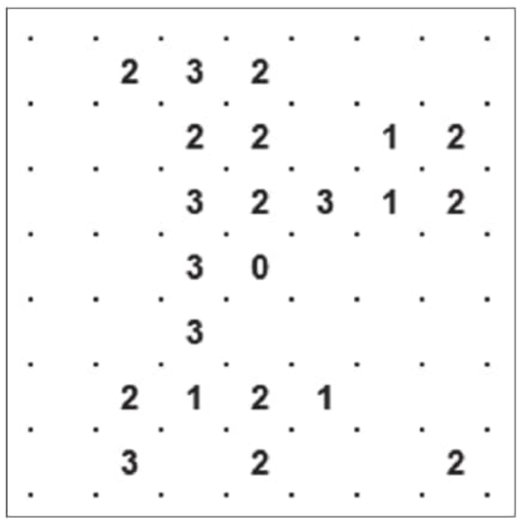
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



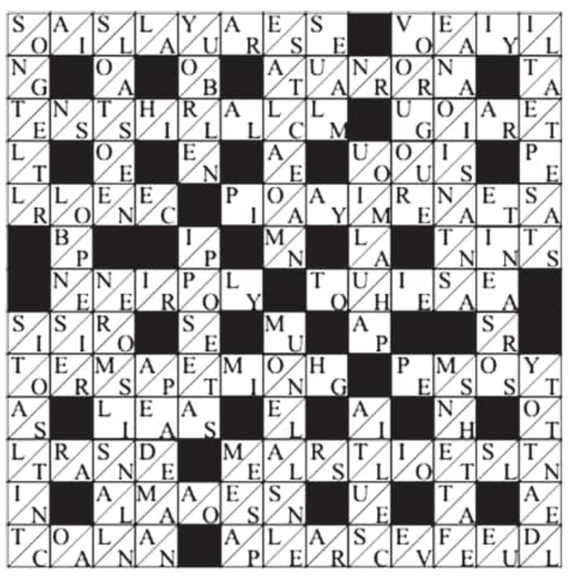
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3 W	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

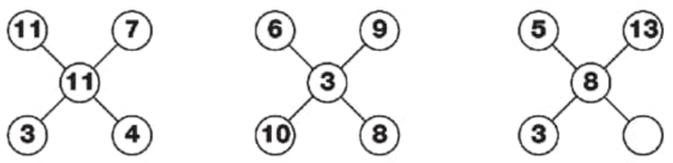
1 As Ibw; 6 Hut no; 7 Or toy; 8 Tomes; 9 Pesty

DOWN

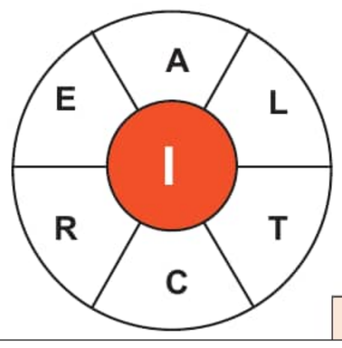
1 Burts; 2 No may; 3 W Pooh; 4 To let; 5 St yes

Mensapuzzle

Which number completes this puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

17 Average; 19 Good; 21 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

				7			1	
9			2					3
8	5	1			4	2		
			5					4
4		2	6		8	5		1
1					3			
		7	4			9	8	2
6					9			5
	2			5				

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 7

1 7 7 8

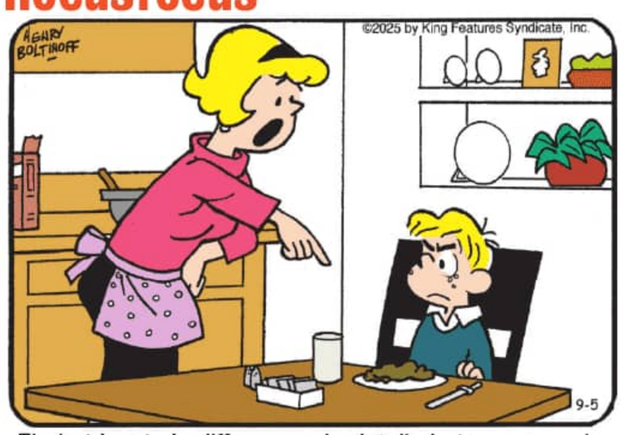
Medium = 13

4 3 3 2

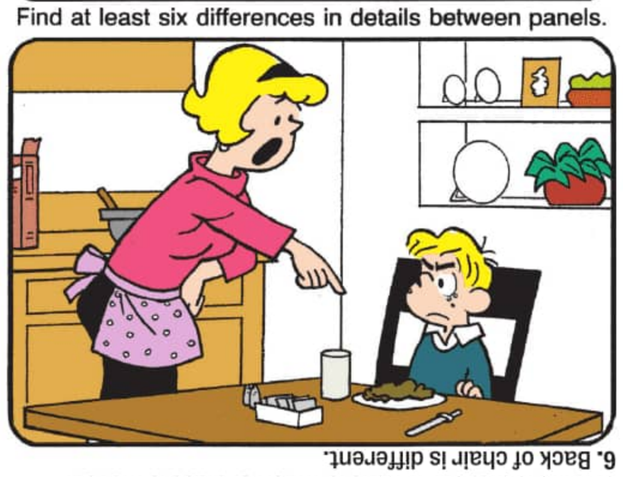
Hard = 22

3 4 5 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Box is taller. 3. Knife is moved. 4. Table is wider. 5. Glass is moved. 6. Back of chair is different.

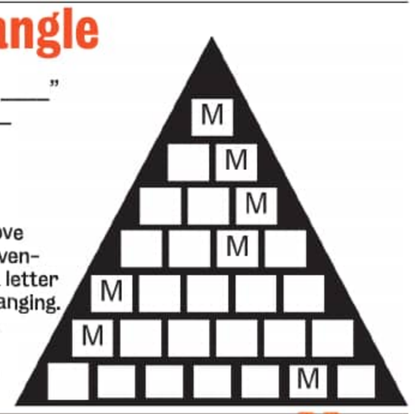
Riddler

Look to the west for golden hues painting the sky, A vast canvas where curiosity lies. Dance with my colors, as they begin to fade, Twilights kiss a tune well-made. Flames born of a dying light, A radiant spectacle, making everything feel alright. Natures masterpiece is a symphony of art, Where amber, ruby, and amethyst start. A celestial mosaic, a sight without end, gentle caress, forever your friend. While darkness develops, Ill linger until my colors depart, Ill leave behind a memory, etched in your heart. Tomorrow, my sister will greet you in the morn, Her colors like mine, reborn. While she brings in each new day, I will end it with my magnificent array. So my friend, who is wise and keen, What am I, an enigma, a joy to be seen?

Alpha triangle

1 One thousand
2 "I think, therefore I ____"
3 U.S. Govt. Uncle ____
4 Goals
5 Principal pipes
6 Predatory insect
7 Destructive wave

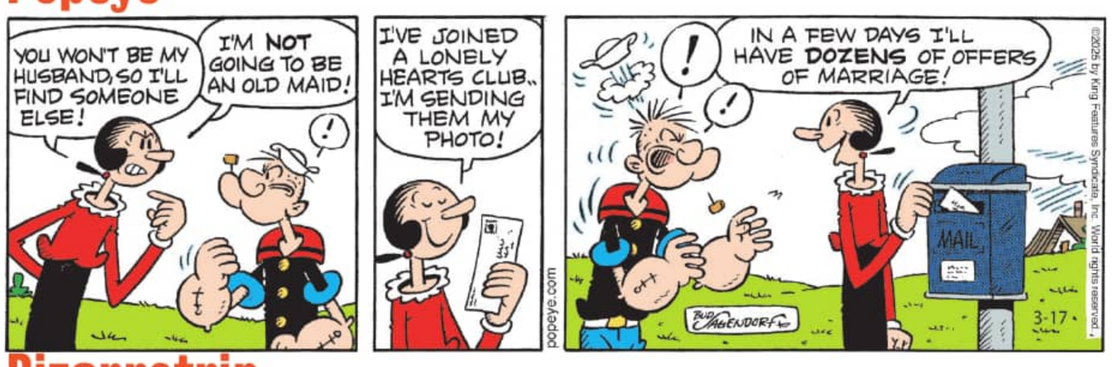
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.



DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye



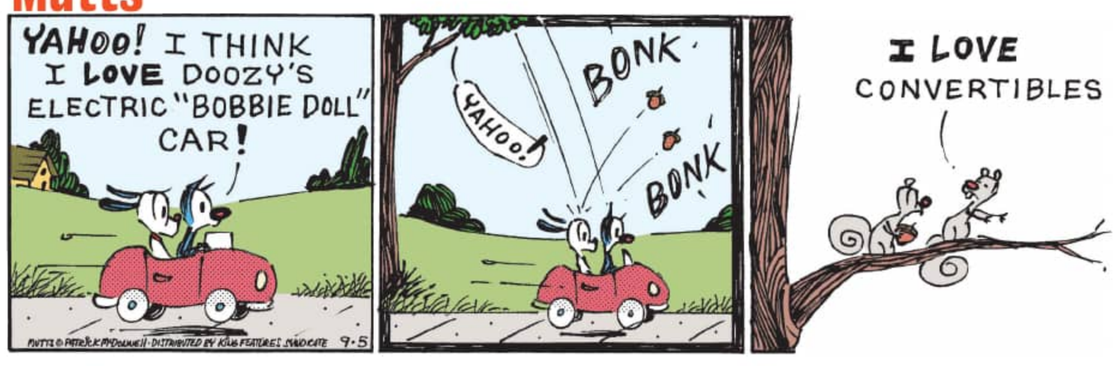
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft

Mutts



WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Your social magnetism is high; enjoy time spent with friends or networking events. However, be wary of spreading your focus too thinly across too many promising possibilities. Sagittarius must choose where to place its vibrant energy for maximum return. Select the conversation or connection that resonates most deeply with your core values.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

Today encourages openness and generosity. Share ideas, time, or support freely. Expressing yourself honestly clears misunderstandings, revealing your genuine spirit.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Clarity replaces confusion in your career path today. Inspiration flows eortlessly, helping you align with your goals. New understanding brings peace, motivation, and direction toward the professional life you desire.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Your environment influences your mindset; tidy surroundings bring clarity. Dedicate today to organising your home or workspace. Clean spaces spark creativity, calmness, and renewed focus.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Diculty focusing at work fades with calm reflection. Practise meditation to release mental clutter. A clear, peaceful mind helps you regain balance, productivity, and purpose throughout your day.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Romance may feel strained by miscommunication. Strengthen your bond through open conversation and empathy. Honest dialogue with your partner helps dissolve misunderstandings and restoring warmth.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Today's energy supports major financial steps, investments or property decisions may flourish. The stars favour bold moves made thoughtfully, leading to growth, prosperity, and confidence in your long-term stability.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Patience serves you best today. If tensions arise, step back and wait before reacting. Silence prevents unnecessary conflict and preserves harmony, ensuring smoother resolutions tomorrow.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

Low energy or mild illness may linger; nurture yourself with rest and warm, nourishing food. Careful attention to health today helps restore vitality and prevent further fatigue.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Workplace changes may challenge your authority, but your worth remains intact. Prove your skills confidently and professionally; your actions will speak volumes, earning respect and rearming your value.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

Pause and appreciate your blessings: supportive family, steady income, and emotional balance. Gratitude transforms your perspective, inviting even more peace, fulfilment, and positivity into your life today.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

Work stress comes from unclear priorities. List what matters most and tackle it first. This structure clears confusion, reduces pressure, and brings focus, success, and relief.

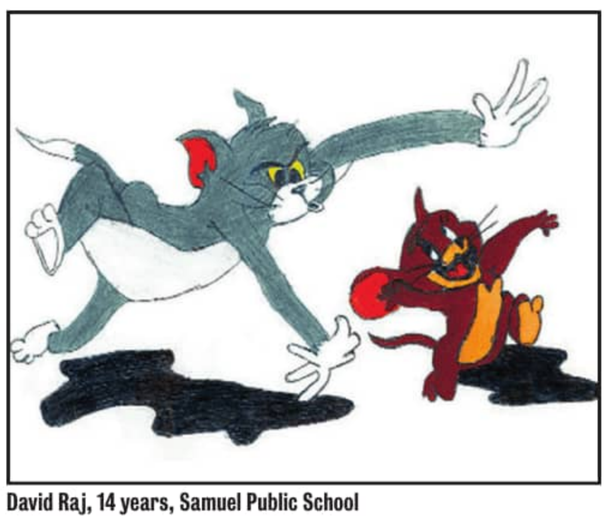
Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

Unplanned challenges may appear, but they're fleeting. Stay calm and flexible as situations shift. Your resilience ensures stability returns quickly, leaving you stronger and more grounded than before.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE

Vipul KR, 11 years, Amar Jyothi English School



David Raj, 14 years, Samuel Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

8+2+6+3-7-5+4+0+9-1 = 0
8+2+6+3-7+5-4+0*9-1 = 0
8+2+6-3+7-5+4-0*9-1 = 0
8+2+6-3+7-5-4+0*9-1 = 0
8+2+6-3-7+5-4-0*9-1 = 0

RIDDLER

A sunset

STRIKE OUT

S	I	L	L	Y	A	S	S	■	V	A	I	L	■	■
N	■	A	■	O	■	A	R	O	N	■	A	■	■	■
E	N	T	H	R	A	L	L	■	G	O	A	T	■	■
L	■	E	■	E	■	A	■	O	U	I	■	E	■	■
L	O	N	E	■	P	A	Y	M	E	N	T	S	■	■
■	B	■	■	P	■	M	■	A	■	T	I	T	■	■
E	N	R	O	L	■	T	H	E	S	E	■	■	■	■
I	S	O	■	E	■	U	■	A	■	R	■	■	■	■
T	E	M	P	T	I	N	G	■	P	S	S	T	■	■
A	■	I	A	S	■	E	■	A	■	H	■	O	■	■
L	A	N	D	■	E	A	R	L	I	E	S	T	■	■
I	■	A	M	A	S	S	■	E	■	A	■	A	■	■
C	O	L	A	■	P	E	A	C	E	F	U	L	■	■

FAST FIVE

B	A	W	L	S
U	N	H	O	T
R	O	O	T	Y
S	M	O	T	E
T	Y	P	E	S

BULL'S EYE

ARTICLE, cite, irate, lair, liar, lice, lira, rail, trice, RECITAL, relic, retail, rice, rile, rite, tail, tier, tile, tire, trail, trial,

QUICK

■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

QUOTE UNCODE

Our daily decisions and habits have a huge impact upon both our levels of happiness and success.

MENSA PUZZLE

7. Add the top figures together, then the central figure is the difference between the bottom ones. The answers these two answers.

SUDOKU

3	2	9	7	8	5	1	4	6
6	8	4	1	2	9	7	3	5
5	1	7	4	3	6	9	8	2
1	6	5	7	4	3	8	2	9
4	3	2	6	9	8	5	7	1
7	9	8	5	1	2	3	6	4
8	5	1	3	6	4	2	9	7
9	7	6	2	8	1	4	5	3
2	4	3	9	7	5	6	1	8

ALPHA TRIANGLE

M, Am, Sam, Aims, Mains, Mantis, Tsunami.

GO FIGURE

Easy
7 + 8 - 7 - 1 = 7
Medium
3 x 2 + 4 + 3 = 13
Hard
3 x 4 + 5 + 5 = 22

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 18, Issue No 246 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore–560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon–responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

The world defines a legend.
For 10 years, there has only been one.

They say roads humble you.
But not everyone is made to bow down.
Because when dominance takes form
It looks like CRETA.

We have gone so far ahead
The only thing in our mirror is dust.
We are not worried about the race.
We are wondering if anyone's even in it.

Ten years later
The crown is still not up for grabs.
Because the one who made the throne
Will forever sit on it.

CELEBRATING
10 YEARS OF CRETA
LEGEND FOREVER
A MILLION DREAMS

Avail amazing benefits up to
₹25 000* + GST Reduction
Hurry! Offer valid till stocks last.

Scan to
know more.

HYUNDAI

Lakshmi Hyundai: Hebbal Ph: 9900037900, Kalyan Nagar Ph: 8884441111, Whitefield Ph: 8884497700, Devanahalli Ph: 8884499037; **Pavan Hyundai:** Kanakpura Road Ph: 7337882373 Electronic City Ph: 7337882335; **Trident Hyundai:** SankeyRoad Ph: 7353762526 , K R Puram Ph: 9844266873, Hosur Road Ph: 9743786716, Indiranagar Ph: 9743107927, Yelahanka Ph: 7353750677, Yeshwantpur Ph: 9844701452; **Advaith Hyundai:** Residency Road, Ph: 9606076451, Marathahalli, Outer Ring Road, Ph: 9606076452, Vasanthnagar Ph: 9606076453, Bannerghatta Road Ph: 9606076454, Kormangala Ph: 9606076455, Avalahalli Ph: 9606076456,Sarjapura Ph: 9606076458, Bilekahalli Ph: 9606076457; **Blue Hyundai:** New Bel Road Ph: 9513000800, Magadi Road Ph: 9513200033, Rajajinagar Ph: 9591200001, Basavangudi, Ph: 9591211118, Mysore Road Ph: 9591100001; Hessarghatta Main Road: 9916208888; **Dhruvdesh Hyundai:** Banashankari 3rd stage Ph: 9205770577; **Nelamangala: Blue Hyundai** Ph: 9742245636; **Ramanagara: Advaith Hyundai** Ph: 9620594433; **Kanakpura: Pavan Hyundai** Ph: 7892718572, **Kolar: Advaith Hyundai:** Ph: 9620229885, **Tumkur: Pavan Hyundai:** Ph: 7337882383: **Tiptur: Advaith Hyundai:** Ph: 7619577050; **Chintamani: Advaith Hyundai:** Ph: 8147994737.